



# BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY



# 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

Brockton Area Transit Authority 155 Court Street, Brockton, MA 02302-4608 telephone 508-588-2240 fax 508-584-1437 Linda M. Balzotti, Advisory Board Chairperson Reinald G. Ledoux, Jr., Administrator



To all those we serve and those who have an interest in learning about the Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT):

BAT's fiscal year 2012 Annual Report contains information that we hope is helpful to you, the reader, so that you may better understand the operations and finances of your transit agency.

Operationally, we saw stable ridership in both our fixed route and specialized paratransit services. Fixed route customers have increased their usage of the recently introduced "Charlie Card" as a preferred choice of payment for their fare over paying cash. We believe that the "Charlie Card" offers our customers convenient payment options and is a major reason for our customer loyalty and patronage.

Financially, BAT was the recipient of additional operating funds from the Commonwealth that were critical in our ability to balance our budget and maintain stable service. The Commonwealth also transferred available federal capital funds to BAT that have enabled BAT to procure five new fixed route transit coaches. The continued support from our state and federal partners continues to assist us in providing a high quality, safe and reliable service that our customers and communities deserve.

We would like to thank the chiefly elected officials and other members of the Advisory Board for their leadership role in oversight and for their support. We also thank MassDOT and our legislative delegation for their support of mass transit.

Thank you to each and every one who plays a role in assisting us in meeting our mission. We are all greatly appreciative!

Sincerely,

Reinald G. Ledoux, Jr.

Administrator

# **BROCKTON ÁREA TRANSIT**

# **Mission Statement**

To proudly serve and be recognized as an innovative regional transit authority by providing safe, reliable and efficient service to our customers, clients and communities while achieving maximum effectiveness in complementing other forms of transportation in order to promote the general, economic, and social well-being of the area and the Commonwealth. (MGL ch. 161 B)

### **Brockton Area Transit Authority Objectives:**

In fulfilling the Mission, we will be to our:

**Customers and** 

responsive, respectful, friendly, safe, accessible,

**Clients:** 

affordable and dependable.

**Community:** 

a concerned and responsible entity that supports community

activities through both organizational and personal

involvement.

**Employees:** 

an employer that provides a working environment that recognizes and rewards employee contributions and initiatives; opportunities for personal growth and career advancement and encouragement for effective and open communication and

employee involvement.

**Operators**:

a provider of resources to support levels and quality of service determined to by the Authority to be reasonable, necessary and consistent with contractual and regulatory obligations.

Regulators/ Funding a well run, fiscally responsible Authority that operates with

Sources:

prudent business policies and practices.

# **AGENCY OVERVIEW**

Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT) is a quasi-public agency that was established in 1974 with the passage of M.G.L. 161 (B). BAT provides public transportation to the City of Brockton and the adjoining towns of Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Easton, Rockland, Stoughton, West Bridgewater and Whitman.

BAT oversees fixed route bus and paratransit services with additional connections to the MBTA's Middleborough/Lakeville commuter rail service and to Ashmont Station on the MBTA's Red Line. The following is a listing of BAT bus routes by route number.

1 Montello via North Main	9 Pearl via West Elm & Torrey
2 South Plaza/Campello via Main	10 Lisa & Howard via North Quincy & Court
3 V.A. Hospital via Belmont	11 Cary Hill & The Village
4 Westgate via Pleasant	12 Ashmont
4A Westgate via North Warren	13 Mini-Mall
5 Brockton Hospital via Centre Street	14 Stoughton via Westgate
6 Massasoit via Crescent Street	Rockland Flex Tour
8 Southfield via Warren & Plain Street	Bridgewater State Transit Services

Most of these routes connect at the BAT Intermodal Transportation Centre. This facility is adjacent to the MBTA Old Colony Rail Station and serves as the transit hub for the South Shore and Greater Brockton areas. The Centre includes a waiting area, a dispatch and information center, retail vendors, and commuter parking.

BAT is a committed partner with the region's local business community. We believe that by working together we can grow the region's economy and improve our quality of life. BAT is an active member of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce as well as the Old Colony Planning Council.

#### **BAT Funding**

BAT receives funding from the Federal Transit Administration, MassDOT, from assessments to its member communities and from other locally generated sources such as fare revenue, advertising and rental income. These funds are used to fund capital purchases and operations allowing the Authority to provide high quality transit services to the region.

#### **Service Snapshot**

BAT's fixed route service connects neighboring communities and the Central Business District in Boston, as well as major industrial parks, three colleges, medical facilities, shopping centers and area commuter rails. Service is offered seven days a week. Weekday service to the MBTA's Ashmont Station begins at 4:50 a.m. and ends at 12:30 a.m. Weekday and Saturday service in the City of Brockton and neighboring communities begins at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m. with reduced service on Sundays.

BAT's paratransit service, known as dial-a-bat, began operation in 1977. As one of the first coordinated paratransit systems in the nation, dial-a-bat provides transportation to disabled and elderly persons throughout BAT's service area as well as to medical facilities in Boston. Coordinated efforts provide service utilizing private and area Councils on Aging. BAT, throughout its network of transportation providers, serves a number of human service agencies and private businesses under contract.



# **ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **NARROWBANDING**

In an effort to comply with the FCC's requirement that all VHF and UHF Public Safety and Industrial/Business land mobile radio (LMR) systems migrate to at least 12.5 kHz efficiency technology by January 1, 2013, BAT underwent a narrowbanding process in FY13. All of its fixed route vehicles were reprogrammed to operate on a 12.5 kHz channel while its demand response system was converted to digital radios.

#### **BAT CENTRE PARKING GARAGE**

The BAT Centre Parking garage has been in operation since 2002. Located across the street from the Commuter Rail, the parking garage provides spots for over 250 commuters and passengers. As part of our state of good repair plan, we received a grant that was used to fix the spalling in the parking garage. Over the course of



2 weeks, crews worked to repair the chipped concrete and the expansion joints which will improve safety, reduce annual maintenance costs and extend the life of the garage.



#### **EXHAUST SYSTEM**

In June 2012 BAT installed a new overhead exhaust system in our maintenance facility. The facility contains several bays that allow for service and repairs to be conducted on BAT's fleet of over 100 vehicles.

# **VEHICLE ACQUISITIONS**

#### **COUNCIL ON AGING**

In FY12, BAT has moved forward in vehicle acquisitions for the area's Councils on Aging. BAT acquired 5 new vans for the surrounding communities of Easton, Avon, West Bridgewater and Stoughton. These communities all offer transportation to their towns' elderly and disabled community beyond what BAT is offering. All of these vans are wheelchair accessible and will aid the Council on Aging's ability to transport residents even if they are outside BAT's ADA service area.





#### **DEMAND RESPONSE**

BAT was also able to obtain seven 2012 Starcraft mini buses for its Dial-a-Bat service. These mini buses replaced seven aging mini buses that are beyond their useful life in accordance with state and federal standards. Rotating new mini buses in to replace older vehicles helps keep maintenance costs down as well as ensure reliability within the fleet.

#### **FIXED ROUTE**

In FY12, BAT received eight 40' fixed route transit coaches as part of their fleet management plan. Eight new buses being put into service has allowed BAT to replace eight older existing coaches which have exceeded their useful life. By maintaining its fleet within the parameters of the Federal Transit Administration's useful life cycle, the agency will be able to reduce overall maintenance costs and improve system reliability.





#### PERFOMANCE MEASURES - STRATEGIC PLANNING



Brockton Area Transit (BAT) is a data driven agency. To assist BAT in our decision making processes, we collect a total of 48 monthly reports from our fixed route, paratransit, maintenance and safety departments. In total, these reports provide both a snapshot of the agency for a fixed period and a moving assessment of agency trends. Using these reports, BAT initiated an exhaustive strategic

planning effort with the goal of setting performance goals and standards to

which the organization could be measured. In addition to our management team, we were fortunate enough to be joined by individuals including; the Federal Transit Regional Administrator, Old Colony Planning Council, and Southeastern Regional Transit Authority in this collegial effort.

BAT conducted its strategic planning process over a period of several months which included two offsite sessions and several internal meetings. This interactive team building process will serve as the foundation for future planning and decisions making.

#### PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Fixed Route	Standard	Goal
Total Passengers		
Pass/Rev Hour	19.00	22.00
Pass/Rev Mile	2.00	2.20
On-Time	95%	98%

Demand		
Response	Standard	Goal
Total Passengers		
Pass/Rev Hour	2.25	2.75
On-Time	85%	90%

Safety	Standard	Goal
Preventable FR		
Accidents/ 100K	3	2
Preventable DR		
Accidents/100K	3	2

Maintenance	Standard	Goal	Customer Service	Standard	Goal
Breakdowns/100K			Valid Complaints		
FR Miles	3	2	/100,000 FR	15	10
Breakdowns/100K			Valid Complaints		
(DR) Miles	3	2	/10,000 DR	4	2

BAT's performance dashboard is presently available on its website and is updated monthly.

#### SERVICE STATISTICS AND PERFORMANCE

#### RIDERSHIP

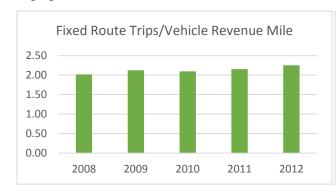
In FY12, BAT carried a total of 2,921,310 unlinked fixed route passenger trips. The FY12 figures are an increase over last year's numbers by 0.3 percent. FY12 demand response trips increased 0.61 percent over the previous year and remained essentially unchanged during the period of FY08 through FY12.





#### TRIPS PER VEHICLE REVENUE MILE

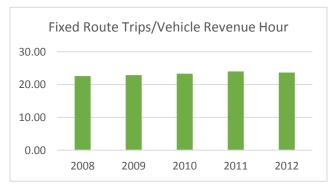
In FY12, fixed route passenger trips per vehicle revenue mile reached the highest level of the five year reporting period with 2.25 riders per vehicle mile operated. The level reflects the agency's increased efficiency resulting in an 11 percent increase over FY08. Demand response trips per revenue mile increased to .24 in FY12 from .23 in FY11.





#### TRIPS PER VEHICLE REVENUE HOUR

Another common performance measure is trips per vehicle revenue hour. At BAT, fixed route trips per vehicle revenue hour have decreased in FY12 by 1.4 percent compared to FY11. However this does represent an overall increase of 4 percent from FY08. Compared to FY11, demand response trips per vehicle revenue hour increased by 5 percent from 2.53 trips per vehicle revenue hour to 2.66 trips per vehicle revenue hour.





# **FINANCIALS**

# **BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

# (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION) STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012

Operating revenues: Passenger fares Reimbursement of maintenance Facility and parking income Advertising Miscellaneous	2012 \$ 3,732,479 77,000 109,085 109,517 23,683	2011 3,404,148 77,000 117,357 98,958 62,778
Total operating revenues	4,051,764	3,760,241
Operating expenses: Transportation services Materials, supplies, and maintenance Insurance Professional and management services Marketing and advertising Administrative and general	9,996,695 1,758,993 772,113 411,607 32,959 669,324	9,777,923 1,536,417 719,561 450,149 9,856 629,601
Total operating expenses, excluding depreciation	13,641,691	13,123,507
Depreciation	2,323,312	2,191,707
Total operating expenses, including depreciation	15,965,003	15,315,214
Operating loss	(11,913,239)	(11,554,973)
Nonoperating revenues (expenses): Local assessments Contract assistance (note 4): Federal Commonwealth of Massachusetts Interest income Interest expense	2,447,886 2,173,836 5,238,946 6,627 (120,830)	2,340,831 2,353,346 4,946,664 9,055 (151,403)
Total nonoperating revenues	9,746,465	9,498,493
Loss before capital grants	(2,166,774)	(2,056,480)
Extraordinary Expense and Stabilization Fund	(138,437)	(135,225)
Capital program: Federal grants Commonwealth of Massachusetts grant	2,031,562 1,158,365	3,746,609 279,487
Total capital grants	3,189,927	4,026,906
Increase in net assets	884,716	1,834,391
Net assets, beginning of year	18,643,468	16,809,077
Net assets, end of year	\$ 19,528,184	18,643,468

# **BROCKTON AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

# (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION)

#### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS

# **JUNE 30, 2012**

Assets:		2012	2011
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents (note 6)	\$	1,295,601	599,655
Receivables for operating assistance:			
Commonwealth of Massachusetts and cities and towns		5,531,229	4,990,238
United States Department of Transportation		1,157,232	1,805,275
Receivables for capital grants:			
Commonwealth of Massachusetts		395,944	27,441
United States Department of Transportation		1,332,026	27,023
Other accounts receivable, net		280,319	218,475
Other current assets		179,378	194,111
Total current assets	-	10,171,729	7,862,218
	-	10,171,725	7,002,210
Noncurrent assets:			
Capital assets (note 8):		0.40 505	0.42.505
Land		863,587	863,587
Transfer center and maintenance facility		15,267,112	15,148,769
Buses and fareboxes		22,769,268	22,318,090
Equipment		4,095,369	3,836,681
Less accumulated depreciation	_	(22,909,043)	(22,600,012)
Total capital assets, net	_	20,086,293	19,567,115
Receivable from cities and towns		3,330,522	3,066,958
Total noncurrent assets, net	-	23,416,815	22,776,352
Total assets	_	33,588,544	30,638,570
Liabilities:			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		2,270,486	862,650
Due to operators (note 5)		933,418	861,617
Accrued interest		132,782	173,057
Deferred revenue (note 7)		923,674	497,779
Deferred revenue (note 1)	=	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Total current liabilities		4,260,360	2,395,103
Long-term liabilities:			
Revenue anticipation notes payable (note 3)	-	9,800,000	9,600,000
Total liabilities	_	14,060,360	11,995,103
Net assets:			
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt		18,421,865	18,993,145
Unrestricted		1,106,319	(349,677)
		1,100,017	(377,011)
Commitments and contingencies (note 10)	_		
Total net assets	\$	19,528,184	18,643,468

# **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE**

BAT has a number of projects planned for the future. Below are some of these endeavors:

- ▲ Automated Vehicle Location System which will enable customers to see bus locations through electronic media
- ▲ Vehicle Overhauls rehabilitation of BAT's 2005 transit coaches to continue its program of "State of Good Repair"
- A Pay by Phone parking system at the BAT parking garage
- ▲ Implementation of BAT's Performance Measurement Dashboard for an improved decision making process
- ▲ Continued "State of Good Repair" with the repaving of BAT's Maintenance Facility and Intermodal Centre
- ▲ Implementation of a Customer Service Initiative to assist customers with limited English proficiency as well as provide support to the CharlieCard program
- ♣ Purchase of two transit coaches and three hybrid coaches through funds transferred from the Commonwealth.



**BAT Administrative Offices**